CLAIMS

- 1. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls, namely mannosyl(1-2)glucosyl(1-2)glycerate, wherein the compound is in any of its possible stereoisomeric forms, alone or as a constituent in a suitable formulation to protect and/or stabilise enzymes or other cellular components and biomaterials against general stress
- 2. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claim 1 wherein the mannosyl residue is replaced by any six member ring carbohydrate residue, namely glucose, galactose, gulose, talose, fucose, rhamnose, idose, or altrose.
- 3. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claims 1 and 2 wherein the glucosyl residue is replaced by any six member ring carbohydrate residue, namely mannose, galactose, gulose, talose, fucose, rhamnose, idose, or altrose.
- 4. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claims 1 to 3 wherein the glycerate residue is replaced by glycerol.
- 5. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claims 1 to 3 wherein the glycerate residue is replaced by glyceramide.
- 6. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claims 1 to 3 wherein the glyceryl residue is replaced by a lactyl residue.
- 7. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claims 1 to 3 wherein the glyceryl residue is replaced by propylene glycol.
- 8. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claims 1 to 7 wherein the glycosyl residues are in the α or β configuration

WO 2004/094631 PCT/PT2003/000006

9. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls according to claims 1 to 8 wherein the glyceryl residue is in the D or L configuration.

- 10. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein to protect enzymes or other proteins against temperature denaturation induced by purification, transport and/or storage.
- 11. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein as a protector of the activity of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) enzymes for clinical, biological and industrial purposes during the storage, as well as the high-temperature recycling of the enzymes.
- 12. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein as a stabiliser of enzymes or other proteins during lyophilization, desiccation or freeze-drying and storage at low temperatures.
- 13. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein as a stabilising agent during the manufacture, storage and assays using test kit enzymes, for diagnostic, biological and industrial purposes.
- 14. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein to stabilise enzymes or other proteins during their routine utilization for clinical, biological and industrial purposes.
- 15. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein for the protection or stabilisation of antibodies for clinical, biological, research, and industrial purposes.

WO 2004/094631 PCT/PT2003/000006

16. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein for the protection or stabilisation of vaccines of proteic or non-proteic nature for clinical, or industrial purposes.

- 17. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein for the protection of biomaterials against stress such as desiccation and lyophilization of cell membranes, liposomes, liposomecontaining cosmetics or lipid related substances.
- 18. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein for the structural protection or stabilisation of DNA or RNA molecules.
- 19. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein for the protection, stabilisation or improved performance of DNA or RNA microarrays.
- 20. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein as an additive to cosmetics to improve moistening properties stabilise compounds or lipossomes or as a suppressor of free radicals.
- 21. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 to 9 wherein for protection against damage caused by lyophilization, desiccation, high temperatures, and freezing to microbial cells.
- 22. The utilization of glycosyl(1-2)glycosyl(1-2)glyceryls or mixtures thereof according to claims 1 and 10 to 21 wherein the compound is a constituent in a suitable formulation to protect and/or stabilise enzymes or other cellular components and biomaterials.

8